

## **CUVETTE CONTROL UNIT AND CONTROLLING METHOD USING THE SAME**

### **Abstract**

Cuvettes in boxes for blood testing and the like, are to be distinguished by bar code cuvette identification codes on each cuvette, together with a box identification code. The cuvettes have very limited space for bar code characters. The cuvette bar code reader is responsive to at least two different kinds of control codes, i.e., two distinct start code values and/or stop code values. The distinct control codes operate the bar code reader, but also contribute to the information that is encoded. A cuvette identification code is developed that combines an information code value with distinctions among the control codes found, to increase the number of values that can be encoded. In one embodiment, four start codes, four stop codes and a single decimal information digit, provide 160 different values.

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